



**SIERRA CLUB**  
LONE STAR CHAPTER

# 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The 89th legislative session begins January 14, 2025 and is the next time the state can adopt new laws and approve the two-year budget.

The Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter will promote our legislative agenda through direct and grassroots legislative lobbying, education, community engagement, and outreach.

## Air Quality Monitoring

We fight for improved air quality monitoring systems, particularly in vulnerable areas like the Gulf Coast and the Permian Basin. This expansion would focus on tracking key pollutants such as **Hydrogen Sulfide, Methane, Ozone, and PM 2.5** using advanced, speciated monitors. Improved monitoring also helps hold industries accountable for air pollution, ensuring a safer environment for communities impacted by petrochemical activities and fossil fuel extraction.



Photo Credit: Vanessa Raamos



Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter

## Clean, Reliable, Affordable Energy for All

We strongly back the responsible growth of solar, wind, and battery storage projects across Texas. We oppose legislative or regulatory efforts aimed at imposing unfair market changes, discriminatory fees, or permitting requirements that make it harder for renewable energy to thrive. Defending renewables ensures a stable grid, job growth, more affordable bills, and sustainable energy solutions for future generations.

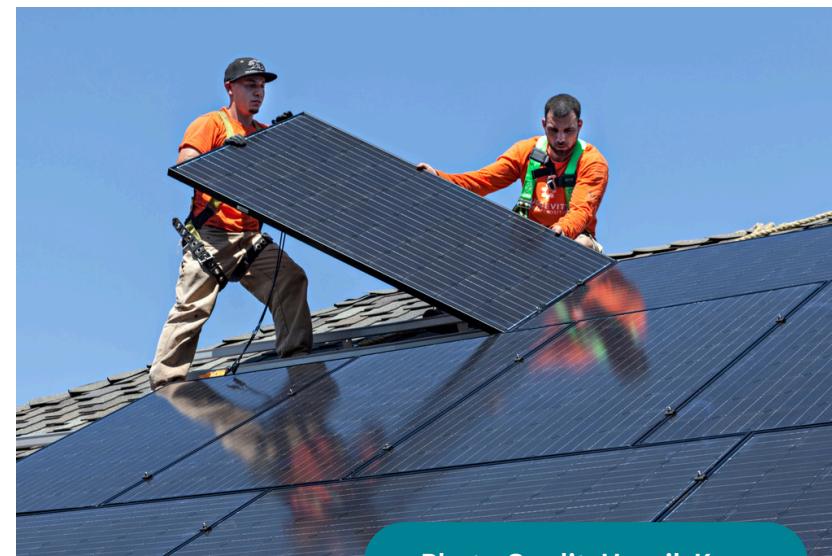


Photo Credit: Henrik Kam

## Modernize Our Electric Grid

We support advancing solutions to make our electric grid more resilient, reliable, and cleaner. This includes increasing the statewide goal for energy efficiency, creating a market-based demand reduction program for residential and small business, expanding local/onsite electric storage and renewable onsite generation, and updating our statewide building codes to the latest national standards, and ensure counties have the same powers as cities to adopt codes, require inspections, and enforce rules to save energy.

## Opposing Fossil Fuel Subsidies

We oppose efforts to further subsidize fossil fuel plants through state-backed incentives or capacity market schemes. One of our goals is to increase grid resiliency measures at private and public utilities to help Texans survive weather extremes, including **Backup Power Packages** approved by voters in 2023 as a part of the **Texas Energy Fund** (TEF). The TEF was created by the Texas Legislature through Senate Bill 2627 and provides funding opportunities for electric generation projects through four programs.



Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter

## CONTACT

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### Water Protection Standards and Solutions

We stand behind establishing **surface water quality standards** for salinity that support aquatic life and protect the Texas coast from desalination plant discharge and petrochemical industrial pollution. We will continue to fight to prohibit the discharge of pre-production plastic pollution to protect waterways from visible and invisible plastic pollution.



Photo Credit: Larisa Niedle



Photo Credit: Donna Shaver

### The Big Water Bill

We support increased funding for the **Texas Water Fund**, the Economically Distressed Areas Program, environmental flow studies, the Flood Infrastructure Fund (including nature-based solutions), agricultural water conservation, and similar essential programs. We advocate for these initiatives to prioritize underserved communities with grants and technical assistance. We urge the inclusion of strong environmental protections and stand firmly against any measures that could threaten local ecosystems.

## HELP SHAPE A FUTURE TEXAS DESERVES

### Stay In Touch

Sign up for our newsletter and never miss an update from the Lone Star Chapter.

### Take Action

Ready to join our Legislative Action Team? We need folks on the ground fighting for Texas' future.

### Get Involved

Visit our website to learn more.



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